

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 SSM-03 IO-13 /098 W
-----120310 250119Z /73

R 241150Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6670
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 1202

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PINS, PBOR, CD, LY
SUBJECT: CHADIAN/LIBYAN NEGOTIATIONS

SUMMARY: SEBHA II CONFERENCE FINALLY GOT UNDERWAY
AFTERNOON OF MARCH 23. LOCAL PRESS AND RADIO GAVE
OPENING EXTENSIVE COVERAGE BUT CAREFULLY
AVOIDED ANY PREDICTION OF SUCCESS.

1. AT TWO HOUR FORMAL OPENING SESSION REBEL LEADER
GOUKOUNI DEMANDED S PRE-CONDITIONS FOR NEGOTIATIONS
PUBLIC GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION OF FROLINAT AND A STOP
IN IMPERIALISTIC INTERVENTION IN CHAD. HE SAID THE CHADIAN
PROBLEM WAS NOT A MURDEROUS ACT OF FOLLY, A
RELIGIOUS WAR OR BANDITRY BUT WAS RATHER POPULAR
RESISTANCE TO A SUCCESSION OF IMPERIALISTIC AGGRESSIONS.
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HE CONCLUDED THAT THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
POSITION OF CHAD HAD CHANGED LITTLE SINCE IT HAD
ACHIEVED ITS INDEPENDENCE. CHAD VICE PRESIDENT DJIME
EXPRESSED THE GOVERNMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE
AND ITS DESIRE FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. TO THIS END,
HE ASKED THE REBELS FOR A PRECISE EXPOSITION OF THEIR
CONDITIONS AND DESIRES SO THAT MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS

CAN TAKE PLACE. LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER TRIKI
TERMED THE PARTICIPATION OF THE VARIOUS PARTIES AT
SEBHA AN AFRICAN VICTORY OVER IMPERIALISM. SUDANESE
VICE PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER OF NIGER LIMITED
THEMSELVES TO COURTESY REMARKS ABOUT THE AIMS
OF THE CONFERENCE, AND ITS PARTICIPANTS.

2. FORMAL OPENING WAS FOLLOWED BY SIX HOUR
NEGOTIATING SESSION AND NEGOTIATIONS ARE SCHEDULED
TO RESUME TODAY. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE LAST EVENING
AFTER THE MEETING, LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THE
CHADIAN PROBLEM HAD DEEP ROOTS AND NEGOTIATIONS
WOULD NOT BE EASY OR RAPID, BUT THAT OPENING
DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN HELD IN FRATERNAL ATMOSPHERE.
IN ADDRESSING REBEL PRE-CONDITIONS FOR NEGOTIATIONS,
HE SAID THAT THE FACT THAT THE TWO PARTIES WERE
TALKING REPRESENTED DE FACTO CHADIAN RECOGNITION OF
OF FROLINAT AND THAT ORIGINAL SEBHA COMMUNIQUE HAD
ALREADY CONDEMNED THE INTERVENTION OF FOREIGN TROOPS.
ACCORDINGLY, HE FORESAW NO PROBLEM IN FROLINAT
PARTICIPATION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. COMMENT: IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER SERIOUS
NEGOTIATIONS ARE GOING TO TAKE PLACE OR WHETHER
CONFERENCE WILL BE USED MERELY AS A STAGE TO TRUMPET
ANTI-IMPERIALIST CHARGES. BRADFORD
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Litigation History:
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Subject: CHADIAN/LIBYAN NEGOTIATIONS SUMMARY: SEBHA II CONFERENCE FINALLY GOT UNDERWAY AFTERNOON OF MARCH 23.
LOCAL PRESS AND RADIO GAVE
TAGS: PEPR, PINS, PBOR, CD, LY
To: STATE CAIRO
Type: TE
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